

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Patent Office for the careful attention accorded this Application and respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the Amendments set forth above and the remarks below.

Claims 7, 9, 10, 11 and 15-20 stand rejected under 35 USC §112. Claims 1-3, 8 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,691,795 to Doane et al. ("Doane I"). Claims 7, 11-13 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,570,216 to Lu et al. ("Lu"). Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,667,897 to Hashemi et al. ("Hashemi"). Claims 4, 10, 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Doane I. Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,907,130 to Cole, Jr. ("Cole") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,890,902 to Doane et al. ("Doane II"). Claims 14 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 4,196,974 to Simoni et al. ("Simoni").

Applicants have cancelled claims 10, 11 and 15-20 without prejudice, amended claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 13, and 14 and have added new dependent claims 21-29. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications herefrom in order to continue prosecution of the inventive subject matter of the cancelled claims.

In addition, Applicants have filed concurrently herewith an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) in the present Application to help accurately reconstruct the state of knowledge in the art at the time the present invention was made. None of the references in the IDS are believed to detract from the present invention defined by the amended claims.

As amended, Applicants believe that the claims clearly define and distinctively claim the present invention over the state of the art, while avoiding any basis for rejection under 35 USC Section 112.

By virtue of the novel electro-optical glazing structures including liquid crystal material interposed between float-glass substrates and having total-scattering and total-transparent modes of operation as defined by the claimed invention, it is now possible to produce low-cost and/or large electro-optical glazing structure that dynamically control the flow of electromagnetic radiation through the glazing structure for diverse applications (such as windows in homes, schools, offices, factories, automobiles and airplanes, and sun visors and sunglasses).

Moreover, the preferred use of an insulating layer is disposed on top of the electrically-conductive film supported by each float-glass substrate as recited in claim 13 prevents electrical shorts in the structure.

Moreover, the preferred use of a ~~PSCTM~~ polymer layer without a mesogenic group as recited in claim 8 results in a haze free glazing structure over a wide range of viewing angles.

Moreover, the preferred use of a surfactant as an additive to the liquid crystal material as recited in claim 27 eliminates liquid crystal streaks in the glazing structure.

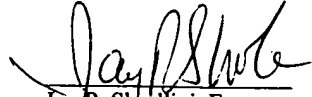
In view, therefore, of the present Amendments and remarks set forth above, Applicants firmly believe that the present invention defined by the amended claims is neither anticipated by, nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art of record, and that the present Application is now in condition for allowance.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited. Should any issue remain unresolved to the full satisfaction of the Examiner, the Examiner is invited to contact the Attorney listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiencies to Deposit Account 16-1340. A copy of this document is enclosed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

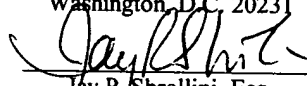
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